

# HOUGH FAMILY LETTERS - 1874

A series of Hough family letters, almost all from 1874. Although the family home is in Lafayette, members are frequently at Hough Springs in Lake County, near Bartlett Springs.

Sylvanus and his wife Orila(sp. ?) correspond frequently with their son Orlando and his wife Emmaline. The children Frank, George, William and baby Carrie are all mentioned.

The trip to Hough Springs, a matter of several days, was by way of Martinez, Benica, Putah Creek (divides Yolo and Solano Co.). Stops were sometimes made at Mountain House and at Mr. Epperson's.



Board and Lodging at Hotel per Week, - \$10 to \$15.  
Cabin Rent, per Week, - \$2 to \$4.  
Camping Privileges, per Week, 50 cents.

Cottages and Cabins rented. Store, Butcher Shop  
and Livery Stable on the Premises.

BARTLETT SPRINGS,

LAKE COUNTY-CAL.

LONG & BROWN, PROPRIETORS.

April 2nd 1874

Dear George

I recieved all your letters- in your last you say you have gone home to attend schoole witch I am glad to here, and hope you will attend to your studeys as well as you did last summer and be a good boy. Now is your time to improve your mind and shape it to be come a man and I hope a good one. lay down your rules of life and never deviate from them. I will tell you what those rules should be to make a tru gentleman. in the first place use good language, never profane. when you speak letet it be the truth never tell a lie- treat everyone with respect in dealings be honist never use deception. the truth will pay best you must not believe in luck make an intelligeng plan and work for it with an honest purpers and manly hart. never use intoxicating drinks for that makes drunkards they are the most wothless beings on earth. neve gamble or play games of chance neve go in bad company. if any one advises you to do a wrong, put him down as your enima for he most asuarily is. if you want advice go to your farther or mother they are the best frends you have in this



would. I have not time nor space to write all I should like  
to

My health is very good my lameness improves little every day I  
shall be home the first June if your father will come up and  
get me I should like to have you go to the ranch to school  
when it commences if your father and mother are willing your  
grandmother is very lonesome

give my love to Frank, Willa and Baby S. Hough  
(to George. S. Hough)



Bartlett Springs

April 24th 1874

Dear George

I recieved your letter of the 13th yesterday, and was glad to hear war going to School and takeing an interist in your studes. that is right you head and you will come out all rite. if a boy is dortermind to git a good education he is shure to accomplish it. I think their is nothing that you could do that would give me or your Father or Mother any more plesher than seeing you trying to git a good sound education. when you git it will stand by you thou life. I see you direct your letters and do it verry well that is right do not ask any one to do that you can do your self

My helth is good but am quite lame Write soon give my love to Frank Willa and Carry

Yours C. S. Hough  
to G.S. Hough

Grandmother Hough



Hough Springs June 4th 1874

My Dear Wife

You will see by the above caption that I have arrive at the mountain rancho and I believe saf and sound I did not get here though untill sunday as I only got over to Antioch just in time to be to late for the boat and consequently had to wait over until the next day 10 oclock, and for the next 2 days it blew a perfect "Jimmy Cain" and I lost my big hat and had to go back about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles before I found it I then tucked it down in the wagon and the cats tore a big hole in the rim I also broke a brace to the pole of the wagon otherwise I got along first rate Monday I went up to Bartlett Springs and paid Mr Taylor his money Yesterday I was rather under the weather in fact I was as weat as a sick cat I thought I was going to have a sick spel and no mistake I drank a good deal of this mineral water on sunday and monday and it just naturally took hold of me with the full determination of clensing me out in a most thour manner, to day I feel much better and shall go & see about getting some lumber to morrow, as I am verry anxious to get our house up, for I must say I have got a verry poor opinion of "baching it" The bread you baked for me got very dry. We just finished it for supper to night the men stopping here thought it was the best bread they ever ate and you ought to have heard the comments dear, on those beans I will give you a few of the remarks made when I put what beans I had left on the table



(board I should say instead of table) What beans hey?

Them is no "stag" cooking.

No you bet they aint. I'll bet a woman cooked them. Say Hough "didnt" a woman cook these beans Say Hough who cooked these beans and I tell you dear I felt about 6 inches taller when I got a chance to stik a word in edge ways between their conversation and told them my wife cooked them Then to hear their exclamations on the anouncement of the fact here is but a small specimen. Thare I knew a woman cooked them. You bet aint they good? Aint you going to have youre wife come up Mr Hough "Wouldnt" it be nice to have such "grub" as this, &c, &c If I should undertake to write one half that was said in prais of the bread and beans and Gingerbread it more than fill this sheat of paper

I am confident we could get a big run of custom if we only had the accommodations for them. It is getting very late and I must close with a good kiss for you and the children tell them dear I would write something to them but it is impossible to night Write soon as you can dear and oblige your

Affectionate Husband

Direct Bartlett Springs

Lake Co. Cal.



June 6 1874

Dear Papa

I will try to write a few words to you I dont know as you can read it I can not write very well yet but i am trying to learn to write. we are all well. Mama got your letter today and soon as mama read it george willis and me began to write a letter to you

Carrie laughed when mama read it, about your hat, i go to school every day Mr. Thurber visited the school Thursday When do you think you will come home

I am nine years old today i can not write any more today.

Please answer my letter Carrie is a good girl

Frank A Hough

COLLON COME  
E S E B A 2 E  
WITTEB 2 PATTE



Lafayette June 6 1874

Dear papa

I thought I would write a few words to you but I dont know whether you can read it or not I went to the ranch a week ago to day and Robert brought a load of wood over and when we was coming over the wagon wheel broke into three pieces Isac has left the ranch ~~mr~~ boardman is digging a well, mama will write to morrow how much will that man give you for the hair I am going to get a fourth reader. I have got mary Thorns babies picture I wanted to study geography but the teacher did not have time to hear it I am almost through my third reader I can not think of any more now write soon

George Hough to papa.



Hough's Springs June 19th 1874

My Dear Wife

I recieved your letter of the 6 inst 3 or 4 days ago, and hope to get another soon I am so glad to get a letter from you.

If I could have got a letter from you to day it seems as if it would be company for me this evening as I am all alone. Capt. Crockett the man that has been stopping with me went away last monday, returned last eve, and went away again to day. Last tuesday night I had 6 lodgers. (Prof. Harmens troupe) with this exception I have been alone when Capt Crockett is away I have got lumber on the ground four our cabbin and shal commence putting it up to morrow or monday as I expect a carpenter here to morrow I do not know how long it will take to put it up as I cannot do much but cook (and such cooking you never saw) and bring spring water down for the Stages and travelers As everybody is anxious to try it and most all like it and some few like it better than the Bartlett water and by supplying people with the water helps to circulate that we have got good mineral water here I was out on the hils to day and saw the prettiest wild flower I ever saw, how I wish you had some of them (that was my first thought when I saw them) I have got some of the flowers pressing for you and I tried to get a root but failed The stalk is about 30 inches tall and about the size of your little finger (with no branches) the leaves grow right round the stalk in rings like, and each ring contains 12 leaves the leaves growing smaller near



the top the top contains 12 flowers about the size of a morning glory some are white others pink (very light pink) and the sweetest smelling flowers you ever saw I shall try my best to get some of them for you Also some wild nutmegs which grow on our place, also some wild pinks which grow in abundance here When will it be convenient for you to come up? This place is only home in name until you get here. My table wobbles about so I can scarcely keep my pen on the paper. I made some yeast the other day and such yeast you never saw I nursed it tenderly for several days then gently scattered it on the chip pile if it raises the chips so as to affect the price of wood I will make some more and try it in flour for bread Write soon as you can mama and give the children a kiss for papa

Your Affectionate

Husband

PS Tell Will to finish his letter to papa soon as he can and let Carrie write some to.



Lafayette, June 25/ '74

Dear Husband

It is just nine oclock P.M. the children have all gone to bed, and I'll try to improve a part of the "stillness of the night" in answering your very kind letter, which I received "day before" yesterday.

The children seemed very much pleased with their letters from you. George has got a letter partly written, & Frank commenced one this evening to send to you. Last week the children were all quite sick, for several days but have got as well as usual now. I am feeling quite well. Since I commenced writing Carrie has got out of bed, and quietly come out, and climbed up in my lap; she insists on sitting up till I go to bed. I asked her today, if she wanted Papa to come home, she said "no" me want him to stay there--so me can write a letter to him". I asked her what I should write to Papa for her, she said tell you that "Mama minds me good." Willie I think will write some, and send with the other boys when they send theirs.

Old Mrs. Allen has got back from the East, she was not suited with the place Mr A. had prepared for her, so she has taken up her abode in Mrs Ghorams house (formerly the old school house) She has fewer friends now than she had before.

Mrs. Warren Brown was here yesterday, she is getting ready to visit her brother Liman, he is very low, just alive, and that is all.

I will not try to write all the news, for fear that the boys will not have any thing to write, if I do.



I received a letter from my sister Carrie, the next day after I sent one to you. She has had a very serious accident. She went home for to rest awhile, but soon as the Trustees in G. heard she was at home they went to engage her to finish out the school. She went in the school, and taught about a week, when from some mishap she fell through the floor in the Principals room hurting her very badly, she had been in bed two weeks, when she wrote to me; her knee was fractured so bad she was afraid she would lose her leg. The day that she wrote to me, there was a Dr. out from Buffalo to look at it, he said if she was very careful, it would get well, he thought, and not be stiff. She is afraid she will not be able to take charge of the Institutes, in July & August, also other business that she has to attend to. I feel so anxious, and sorry for her. She wanted, very much, me to come home while she was there.

When do you think, will be the best time for us to come up there. Do you think you will be down before the first of August It must be rather lonely for you all alone in so wild and rough a place. Perhaps under the circumstances you can endure this poorly got up letter. Please write soon, very soon

Good Night



August 1, 1874

Dear George

I presume you are now wondering, why you do not get a letter, and why we do not write.

The only reason I have not written sooner, is, I have been very buisy since we got here. We left home early saturday morning (one week ago yesterday) and arrived in Martinez half past seven A.M. and crossed over to Benicia on the eight oclock boat, we traveled a long distance that day, nearly to Pewter Creek, which divides the Counties of Solano and Yolo, and stopped over night to Mr Youngs, shere your Father has stopped before. It was a very nice shady place, and the people were quite kind. The next day we traveld through large grain fields, some of it was cut ready to thrash, but much of it was already thrashed, put in sacks and piled in great heaps, sometimes three or four thousand sacks in a pile. The grain was nearly all wheat. The second night we stopped in a very level woody country, where the musquetoos, nearly "eat us up" None of us got much sleep that night. The next day we went in at a slow rate, your Father "give out", and we were obliged to stopp awhile before night, not far from the Mountain House. I bathed his feet in strong mustard water, and a good nights rest, made him all right, to go on, the next day, we stopped awhile to Mr Eppersons, and were invited and urged to stay to dinner, but your Father was in a hurry to get home (I walked up all of the mountains, did not get tired much) we got here about four oclock P.M. The weaether was unusually pleasant and cool and



we had a pleasant journey here. I like it here very well much better than I expected to.

We went up to Bartlett Springs day before yesterday, after a bale of hay. I like the folks up this way very much, what I have seen of them. Bartlett and Allen's Springs are crowded; there is a great many who want to stopp here, but we have not conveniences for keeping them much, we kept three men and a team last night, that got belated on account of the road being shut up below us.

W. Johns built a fence across the road so the Stages, and other teams could not get through. The Sheriff and other men went down and arrested Johns, opened the road but it was so late in the day (they had been kept there several hours) that they could not very well go any farther last night.

John Atkinson stopps here yet he has made us a table and some benches to sit on. Your Father went yesterday up to Allens, after a load of shakes, he intends to put the roof on our house tomorrow. We live in the "little cabin" yet Mr Taylor, and Mr Saufleys folks was here yesterday.

Frank and Willie like it here better than Carrie does "she wants to go home". Your Father seems to like it here first rate. I never saw him more contented. I dont know as you can read this letter, perhaps you can study it out.

I hope you are well, my dear boy, please write your Mother a letter when you get this.

Your Father has not killed any deer yet.

Yours Aff'ty

Mother



Lafayette August 9 1874

Dear Mother. I received your letter yesterday and was glad to hear that you got throug all right. I hope you are all enjoying your selves generly.

I am well I have been to School every day. I have not been tardy once yet I fell down and sprained my foot it was very sore it is some sore yet I could not wear my shoe for two days. they have stopped madeing cheese friday. A man got run over by the cars and cut off one of his feet. I have not been over to see your plants yet. how do you like Bartlett Springs. has papa got the roof on the house yet. has he got the brush off from aroud the Sprig yet. how does Frank and Willie and Carrie get along. how do they lik it up there is there many musquetoos up there. there are 14 scholars here that go to school. how is papa's hand has it got well yet. When does papa think he will have the house done did you go through Napa when you went up. did you go across cush creek. did you see any pretty flowers going up I have wrote my copy book through since I have been going to school here and have got a number two copy book do you mail your letters at Colusa or Bartlett Springs. how many stages runs past the cabin. tell Frank and Willie and Carrie that jip has got 4 little puppies. I can not think of any more now. I must close by biding you all good by. please excuse bad writeing and speling. George Hough to his mother

n.b. I might have wrote more but I am tirid of writeing. Write soon as you can my Dear Mother

tell me how Frank likes it



August 16, 1874

Dear George

We received your letter last Wednesday, was very glad to hear from you, that you was well and going to school so steady. We are all well, your Father's hand is sore yet. I have poulticed it several times with flax seed which, if continued, would cure it I think.

The new house is not finished yet, there was much work to be done to it, besides covering it. It will be done probably by the time we go home. Is our fruit ripe in Lafayette? I have not been lonesome any up here. I like it very much. The stage leaves us plenty of papers. Every body seems kind and obliging up here. Your Papa wanted you should ask your Grandpa when he wants to come up here. The children are abed and asleep or I presume they would send some word to you

Aug. 19. I have waited several days for Frank to finish his letter, but he is not disposed to answer it tonight, so I'll send mine without it. I have been washing down to the creek today, and am very tired. I asked Carrie what I should write to George for her she said tell him "me send him some gum in a paper". Please write to me soon as you get this. I liked your letter very much Papa, Frank and all of us send our love to you.

"Good Night"

Your Father has been out hunting

Dear George,

many times since I came up here, but has

Mama

only killed two Deers. Frank and Willie have nice times fishing. Frank caught a very large trout a little while ago.

From your Mother



Lafayette Aug 23) 1874

Dear Mother

I received your letter today and was glad to hear that you are all well I am well to all but my foot is sore yet. you asked me to write about the plants and fruits. your double geranium is in bloom and your white fucia also I went to Lafayette today your plant looks verry nice. the grapes is most ripe by the time you get down here. I sold that hen that was over to Mr Sh ve I dont know what became of the chickens she had 9 eggs in our henhouse I sold the hen and eggs for 65 cts I got 50 cts for the hen and 15cts for the eggs I picked the peaches and my grandma is agoing to p them up for you so you can have them when you come down I went to Oakland yesterday it is the first time I have went to Oakland since you went away. When are you coming home I want to see you all very much. how do you like venison I suppose Frank and Willie likes it here is a paper for the advocate I will send you an advocate there was not many peaches. I though I would write to Frank and Willie and Carrie You can read Willie's for him and you can read Carrie's to. I think I will have a many letter to write. Is not the cabin very small for all of you tell Carrie that she must write to her Brother George I must hurry and though for it is getting late. I must close by biding you all a kind goodnight



September 2.

Dear Brother George

I received your letter today and was glad to hear from you. We are all well. I have been fishing today but did not catch any fish. I made me a quail trap and have caught two birds in it. Papa has been out hunting a grate many times, but I have not been with him yet. We have made some pine gum and will save some for you.

September 4. I did not finish my letter today before yesterday, so I will try and finish it today. I went fishing and caught a large fish yesterday.

Papa is gone hunting today. Mama is making bread. I can not write any more my arm is tired writing. Frank A Hough to his brother.



Hough,s Dec, 28<sup>th</sup> 1874

Dear Wife

I received your letter last wensday also one from George I am sorry to hear that Father has not let you have some money and got you what things you needed I wrote him another letter on the subject last tuesday (that was the day before I resvd your letter)

I would send you some money in this letter but I intend coming home some time next week if nothing happens between now and then to alter my mind I shal have to leav evrything hear as it is, as I shal come on horsback on account of bad roads, in the meantime I wish you would get what things you want of Shreve and I will pay him as soon as I come down

I have been washing to day (and you know how it makes a body feel) I have waited for about a month for it to rain so I could have rain water to wash with but dirt got the best of me and I had to go at it with creek water and the water being hard made my cloths look rathe grimmy: you know; well thare wont anybody see them for I have hung them way back in the brush and had a mighty good notion to cover them up with brush I spent Christmas cutting brush from hear to the spring and only saw one person during the day he was going along the road and did not stop the next day I saw 2 men and the next day none at all to night thare are 4 men camped down below here. The stages have not run a trip since thanksgiving day the mail is carried through hear once a week on horsback tomorrow is the day for the mail to go out. The weather is awful



cold here at present. My potatoes have froze so has the cabbage the other day I got 30 lbs apples and they froze the other night I set a cup of water by my bed and it froze you may judge by this that it is a freezing time up here I dont know but I shal wake up some of these mornings frooze stiff as a stake. The kitchen is quite comfortable with a big fire but the room we used to sleep in is just terific I have only got 2 pairs of blanets a hors blanket some deer skins and that old carpet you left here, for my bed. I caught an awful cold a few days after I wrote to you last and had a very serious time of it for a week or ten days I am not quite over it yet but nearly so

It is getting late and cold and I must close with a kiss for the children one for yourself and good night

Orlando



## THE KIND LOVING FACES AT HOME

I'm thinking to-day of the home of my youth,

Near the brooklet that runs through the glade;

The green, grassy lawn and the orchard so dear,

Where oft in my childhood I've strayed.

'Tis many a year since those scenes I have left,

Through far-distant countries to roam,

But where'er I've wandered I've still longed to see

The kind, loving faces at home.

Chorus.-And though we are parted, yet ever to me  
Sweet thoughts of my loved ones will come;  
And where'er I wander I still long to see  
The kind, loving faces at home.

How oft in my dreams have my thoughts wandered back

To my mother, so kind and so true,

Who whispered "Good-bye and God bless you, my boy,"

When I bade her and father "Adieu."

E'en now in my fancy I once more can feel

Her warm, loving kiss on my brow,

And sigh when I think that 'tis naught but a dream,

For I'm wandering far from her now.

Chorus.-And though we are parted, etc.

My sweet, loving sister, with whom I have played

So oft in our childhood at home,

Has sent to me many a message of love

To cheer me whenever I roam.

My father is waiting to greet me again



When my long, weary journey is o'er,  
And soon we will meet round the old fireside,  
To part on this earth never more.

Chorus.-And though we are parted, etc.

COLLON-COM LEM  
E' E B V 2 F  
MILITARY MUSIC



OFFICE OF  
Superintendent of Common Schools

WOODBURY CO.

~~MISS CARRIE A. BASSETT, Superintendent~~

Evanston, Ill.

~~Sioux City, Iowa~~ 187

Dear Sister Em:-

I think I wrote you last, but seeing some of my photo's thought I would send you one. They are not good. Do I look as I did when you saw me last? I am here attending the University Expect to stay about three years if nothing happens but go out to do institute work.

The Women's Educational Aid Association are to assist me some in going through.

I like it here much.

Write soon. Love to all, from

Carrie.



Hough Springs

March 1th 1871

My Dear Son

I rceived your letter of the 30th of Janury yesterday  
We have had winter up here have not bin able to git Lumber I  
have bin up to th twice the mill it was not runing they had  
some Barn lumber cut Say they will cut the lumber as fast as  
we can hawl it

the grane is looking verry well consideing the last wethe  
we have had we have bin nearly out hay for the last month  
let the horses and feed a little night and morning we have  
2," Bales lest I dont know wat we Shal do when that is gone  
Repurt sent the \$100.00 you let him have to the man we boyht  
hay of and he wants the Balunc we of- the money we ow hin  
the dutchman was down for the \$20.00 we owd for on Baley and  
I paid hin. he says it is imposable to hawl feed at presant

fix up that Land buisness as qick as you can and dont let  
the tinme run ovr for awnsweing to the sute you had Better git  
glascock see that the Buisness is don right. You are authised  
to sine my name in any buisness down thare as my aturny if  
thure is any thing have to be sworne to you will have Glascock  
fix it in some shape that we dont git beat in the answer I  
wis you would go down see Ricee about that money I dont  
think I can git down thare before the first may the roads are  
in bad condisian and we shant want to yuse it behaun that tin,  
if thare is any trubel about the land we will him to his  
satisfakion in some other way, if the money is in the Bank draw-



ing interist he had better leave it thare til I go down and  
hin. we shal want the whole amount of \$2500.00 the  
first of may. we had better the pay diference betwene in-  
terest he gits in the Bank and what we are to pay for one  
month.

I wish you would git thrue with the Buisness down thare as  
quick as you can and come cam up heir. I can not git any one  
to drive the Team that I dare to trust on the hills I think  
the roads will be pasibl in 2 weeks

Yours S. Hough

thay have quite a time up to Bartlets Brown & Long started to  
move the cabbins they put on the fuse Bartlet had to pay them  
\$1000.00 to stop them

COLLON. COLLEGE  
ESTABLISHED  
MILITARY AVIATION



Oakland Jan 23/72

friend O. Hough.

According to agreement with your Father last Sunday I promised to write you a line to day about some young cattle to be shipped to Yokohama (Japan)

The old man thought you had just such heiffers as I wanted and I almost depend on you for furnishing the same to me

We want 25 good American young Cows, say from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 years old and if you have them I depend on you as a brother to select them for me; if not ? Telegraph over to me on receipt of this care of Kruse & Euler 209 Front St. San Francisco so I may look for them some where else.

If you have such cattle as I need and one 2 or 3 year old Bull--drive the young Stock down to the Ranch The man who is going to take them to Japan may be up there by Stage tomorrow or day after & I hope you will let him have a good chance to look at the Cattle and give him a little comfort in your father's house.

If I do not hear from you any further--I shall be up there Saturday or Sunday to pick out the Cattle I want--but like Mr I. Johnson, the man I am going to send up to get acquainted with them a little beforehand.

As he is going with the animals to Japan it would be well to let him drive them down with you to the Boat but in the interim try him, to see if he can milk & knows anything about Stock.

If I take your Stock, it must be driven down to Brooklym



Monday or Tuesday afternoon to be put aboard the Louine the  
next morning & I want your assistance for that.

Yours fraternally

Ernat Jausseray

for Kruse & Euler

209 & 211 Front St. San Franc

COTTON CONTENT

EEEBVASE

WITNES EATTS



Dear Pa

Bartlett Springs Dec 29th 1873

Dear George I recieved two letters from you. Think it is about time that I should write one to you. I am well that is my general helth is verry good but am quite lame yet am inhopes I shal be better soone. one of my hips became limber and strait as ever but it is verry lame. I can get my knees to gether now and walk with one cane on level ground. I do my own cooking now and live alone.

you tel me you had a Snow Storm and had lots of fun I am glad to hear you had a good time we had a big Snow Storme hier but not mutch fun

you tell me you killed 30 Squerrels did you get the bounty if not I will pay you when I come home.

You say you have got 40 white mise. I think you made a mistake that is most to meny mise. you did not tel me how Frank and Willy and Baby git along. I should like to hear from them verry muth.

the reason I did write to you before I was in hope the hunters would bring in Bear but they have not I will tel you how git them thay have 10 or 12 dogs about as big as your little dog thay git track of theam when thay come up with him thay will bite hind legs the Bare will turne to figh them the dogs will run, to git out of the wa 5 or 6 of them wil git behind him and bite his hind legs he will turn to figh them and the onss he has chast will wheal and bite him behind they will de-



lain him til the outer hunter come up and git a Shot at him.

I do not think of any thing more to write this time so I  
will bid you good by  
give my love Frank and Willy and Baby

S. Hough

to George S Hough

N.B. wite whe your Granma dos and put it hur letter and send  
in your own hand writeing I can rad it very well S.H.

Happy New Year



Bartlett Springs

J 18

Dear George

I recived your letter of the 13 last Friday stating you was well witch I was glad to hear you say you and your brother and sister got some fine presants Crismas I think you must ben good children to have got so menny presants and hope you will continu to be good. you say you wish I would come home for you want to see me I want to see you to verry as mutch as you do me, but your poor old Granpa wnts to git well or he woul see none of you long.

I think come one must have put those mice in with your white wons. it is gitting dark and mst cose biding goodby

Write Soone

Yours &/C S. Hough



we had a verry pleasant weding I wished you had been there it was dun up so quickly I could not get my friends together Our folks has invited us out to spend the Holidays but we cannot go Samel is verry buisy and we must make hay while the sun shines they wanted to get all of the Children home Christmas that they could I think we would enjoyed it much. I received a letter from home and also one from Jane last week they were well Father had been quite poorly but was better Carrie has wrote them that she cannot come home in Jan and dont know when she can We are antisipating having a verry pleasant time Christmas we have in conection with our usual festiv an old folkes concert and those that take part are to dress in old stile and old stile musick the poceds are to go towards carpeting the Church I have been to places of amusement some this winter but not as much as I useto before I was marred Samel is not so fond of going as I am & deprive me of going meeting my friends and reading and I should be a verry ungappy woman fro it is as necessary as the air I breath I had the pleasure of hearing Mrs Harriet Stors read I had heard nearly all of the noted individuals and I untill I went She red Whis Ever tide and a new England story she is truly an ex-centric woman My Dear Sister Em I had hoped to have seen C sometime but I have given up all hopes now at least for a long time. There is more hope of my seeing England than C but how I do want see you I met Bishop k to a social when he was here Mr Sions interdused him he told him that I wanted to go to C with him I would of a spled travailing companion Your



Children how I do wan to see them may we not hop to see you  
here some time Mr Hough you have not fulfilled your promes  
you sade Em could come home in five years I wish she would  
come you spoke in one of your letters about your plants do  
you love them as well as I do I have a few and they look  
nicely it is such a pleasure to keep of them and see  
them grow in the spring I shall have more Samel is verry  
fond of plants He went to the market one day and brought me  
such a handson Fusha and Geranem in blosom how cheerfull  
they make a hous look. How will you spend the Holidays with  
me I should think you might have a marry time I wish you a  
Merry Christmas and a happy New Year and many of them with you  
Children God bless them I know they have a good Mothe may he  
who has answerd a Mothers ernes prayer for her Children answer  
yours and keep your children from the eavel of the world and  
may they grow to be Good men and women I will close by send-  
ing our love to the Children and a great deel for yourself  
Write soon Good buy

From your Sister

Mary



ORLANDO AND EMMALINE HOUGH FAMILY

CHILDREN:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BORN</u>
Frank Hough	June 6, 1865
George Hough	April 1864
William Hough	1868
Carrie Hough	1871 or 1872